മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: ഉത്തരം (ബി) യിൽ "ഉവ്വ്" എന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആരുടെ നിവേദനമാണ് കിട്ടീട്ടുള്ളതു് ?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: ഒരു പബ്ലിക്ക് മീറ്റിങ്ങിന്റെ പേരിലാണ് നിവേദനം അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: ഇതു് ആക്ട് ഏല്പിച്ചു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണോ നിവേദനം ?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: ചിലക്ക് ഏല്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്നതായി സംസാരമുണ്ട്; അവക്ക് ഏല്പിച്ചു കൊടുക്കരുതെന്നാണ് നിവേദനം.

HIGH COURT BUILDINGS ON ERNAKULAM FORESHORE—CONSTRUCTION OF

40. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they had any idea to construct a pile of buildings for housing the High Court and other Courts in the foreshore facing the Shanmukham Road;

(*b*) if so, what was the estimated amount;

(*c*) whether any materials have been ordered for and got down;

(*d*) if so, who supplied the materials?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) The question of constructing a building for housing the High Court, etc., was under the consideration of the Government. This has since been dropped.

(*b*) No estimate was sanctioned.

(*c*) Some asbestos cement sheets were purchased.

(*d*) From Mr. A. Shanmugham, Agent, Messrs. Killick Nixon & Co., Bombay.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether an estimate was prepared?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* An estimate was prepared.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* The cost of the asbestos of cement purchased?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It comes to about Rs. 8,000.

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Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)* : Have you dropped the idea of shifting the High Court?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : That has been given in answer to sub-division (*a*).

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Then why were the asbestos sheets purchased?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : They were purchased for ceiling.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Even before the construction of the building was started, you provide for ceiling. It seems very funny!

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : The conditions were such that due to war it was necessary to purchase articles the prices of which were gradually mounting.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: When was the scheme dropped?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Why was it dropped?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: On account of the cyclone and several other causes the Government revenue was falling. Therefore, the question of constructing a costly building like that has been postponed for the present.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Is it permanently dropped or only temporarily?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : I do not know what is permanent here.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: You used the word "dropped" in the answer.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : Dropped for the present.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: My question is, before the building construction was started why were these ceiling materials purchased?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: The hon'ble member is entirely wrong. The estimate provided for the asbestos ceilings. I brought it to the notice of the Government that these materials will not be available after one or two months and so it was necessary for the Government to buy these sheets and have them stocked. Government approved of my proposal and we placed orders for these cement asbestos sheets and purchased them. Similarly was the case of steel also. It is very difficult to get steel

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in these times, and we took up the matter with the Controller of Stores for the purchase of steel.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Was this Shanmukham agent for steel also?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Before estimate was sanctioned, may I know, how were the sheets purchased?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* In the P.W.D. Code there is a provision for buying materials for stocking purposes. Under that Code Rule we purchased them.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know the amount of expenditure incurred?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Rs. 8,000.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government lose anything by this transaction?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* By this we will get a profit of about Rs. 2,000, if we sell the stock.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether at any time in the history of the Public Works Department a thing like that happened?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We used to purchase timber, steel and other articles for stocking purposes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Even before the estimate is sanctioned?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes, for stocking purposes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* I would like to get one instance where such a thing has been done?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I remember, we have purchased even before estimates have been sanctioned large quantities of timber once and we have kept them in stock to be released for work as the estimates were being sanctioned.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* For that, is there a budget provision?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Otherwise, there will be additional allotment sanctioned.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether this Mr. A. Shanmukham is in any way related to Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Government have no information.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: To which place does he belong?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Coimbatore.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know whether Government think it necessary to purchase other materials the price of which is mounting up like anything.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: It will be a very good thing to do that.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Why not Government do so?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: We are doing that as far as possible.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Does the Government mean to carry on a commercial competition with the rest of the traders?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: There is no intention at all to enter into any competition like that. We just simply buy things which we may reasonably stand in need of, for use in the near future.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: My point is how many rupees worth of materials have been stocked in your Department last year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: We have purchased only cement sheets under that category during last year. One difficulty for us to purchase things in advance is uncertainty as to how they are to be utilised in the near future. If we have got estimates prepared and if we know the exact quantity and specifications of the materials to be purchased, it would be a very great thing for the Government to purchase them before prices go up.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know whether steel girders are necessary for the construction of the building like the one in contemplation?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Have not the prices of these materials gone up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Is it because that Mr. A. Shanmukham is not the agent of such things that these articles were not purchased?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No. In fact, with regard to steel, we have been in correspondence with the Controller of Stores to allow us to make these purchases and we have been negotiating about this at the time.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Are these materials in any way inferior because they are supplied by Mr. A. Shanmukham?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Oh! no.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether in view of the fact that the proposal of the construction of the High Court buildings has been dropped they will sell these cement sheets?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We want these cement sheets for other purposes.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Was any officer appointed in the Public Works Department for purposes connected with the construction of these buildings?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether tenders were invited for the purchase of these asbestos sheets?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We consulted different agents who are dealing in these asbestos sheets.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether any advertisement was published with regard to this?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We have been in correspondence with all the firms dealing in these materials?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will you please give me names of half a dozen such firms?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I want notice.

CENTRAL JAIL—ACCOMMODATION—CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS

41. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether any buildings for additional accommodation in the Central Jail have been constructed or are under construction in 1116 with the allotment of Rs.15,000 made in the Public Works Budget *(Please vide Huzur file P.W. 4. 16950/15)*;

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